

"THEY GAVE UP EVERYTHING FOR THEIR COUNTRY,
FOR US. ALL WE CAN DO IS REMEMBER..."

~ RONALD REAGAN



MEMORIAL DAY 2015

MONDAY, MAY 25, NOON

NORTH DAKOTA VETERANS CEMETERY

MANDAN, NORTH DAKOTA

SPECIAL THANKS

VETERANS & THEIR FAMILIES

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS & THEIR RESPECTIVE CLUBS

BISMARCK MOUNTED POLICE

SINTE-SKA

188TH ARMY BAND

METRO-AREA AMBULANCE SERVICE

25
YEARS OF HONOR

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MAJ. GEN. (RET) ALEXANDER P. MACDONALD



Maj. Gen. (Retired) Alexander P. Macdonald was born in Davenport, N.D., and graduated from Davenport High School in 1946 and the N.D. Agricultural College in 1950. He began his military career by enlisting as an aircraft mechanic in the N.D. Air National Guard in June 1948. In January 1951, he joined the U.S. Air Force as an aviation cadet and subsequently received his pilot wings in February 1952. After serving nearly a year at George AFB, California, flying the F-51, he was assigned to the 6147 Tactical Control Group in Korea flying the LT-6G as a forward air controller. Ninety days of this assignment was spent with the Army as a ground forward air controller in the Punch Bowl area of South Korea. He returned to the flying mission completing 36 missions prior to the cessation of hostilities and was assigned as an instructor pilot upon his return. After leaving the Air Force in 1954, he returned to the family farm and rejoined the N.D. Air National Guard. In 1958, he became a full-time Guardsman serving as a flight commander, operations officer and squadron commander. Macdonald was appointed commander of the 119th Fighter Group in February 1968, serving in that capacity until March 1981, when he was promoted to brigadier general. In January 1983, he became the Air National Guard assistant to the commander of North American Air Defense Command, which led to his promotion to major general on June 10, 1983. Macdonald became the North Dakota adjutant general on August 1, 1984, in command of nearly 5,000 Soldiers and Airmen. He served in that position under three governors until his retirement on September 30, 1993 after over 45 years of military service. Macdonald is a command pilot with 10,000 military flying hours in numerous jet fighter and conventionally-engined transports. He is married to the former Joan Smith of Beltrami, Minnesota. They have a son, who is an attorney in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and a daughter, in Bettendorf, Iowa, who is a college instructor and married to an Army chaplain. They have five grandchildren.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

COL. (P) ROBERT A. FODE



Col. (Promotable) Robert A. Fode enlisted in the South Dakota Army National Guard in 1978 as a truck driver. Later he transferred to the North Dakota Army National Guard and served as a combat engineer and military policeman. In 1985, he graduated from Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Fode served as a platoon leader, executive officer and company commander with the 164th Engineer Combat Battalion; as the operations officer for the 142nd Engineer Combat Battalion; and as executive officer, and later commander, for the 141st Engineer Combat Battalion. As commander, he led his battalion during Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2003 to 2005. After the deployment, Fode commanded the Camp Grafton Training Center, and later, the 68th Troop Command. From May 2009 - July 2010, he served as the deputy commander, Multinational Battle Group East in Kosovo. He has served as the director of the joint staff and currently commands the N.D. National Guard's Army Component. Fode began his civilian career in 1993 with the N.D. Department of Transportation after graduating from the University of North Dakota with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. He has held a number of positions within the organization and currently is the director for the Office of Project Development. Fode's military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (6 awards), Army Commendation Medal (3 awards), Army Achievement Medal (2 awards), National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Service Star), Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the U.S. Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (8 awards). His military education includes Command and General Staff School and the United States Senior Staff College. Fode is married to a fellow National Guard member, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Theresia Hersch. Together they have three children.

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

- Opening Remarks: Col. (Promotable) Robert A. Fode
- Posting of the Colors:
 - American Legion Lloyd Spetz Post #1, Bismarck
 - American Legion Gilbert S. Furness Post #40
& Veterans of Foreign Wars Harry L. Kidd Post #707, Mandan
 - American Legion Albert Grass Post #173, Fort Yates
 - American Legion Matthew American Horse Post #259, Cannonball
 - AMVETS Post #9, Bismarck
 - Bismarck Mounted Police
 - Dakota Leathernecks Detachment
 - Disabled American Veterans Post #3, Bismarck
 - Native American Women Warriors
 - Standing Rock Vietnam Veterans Association
 - Veterans of Foreign Wars Gilbert N. Nelson Post #1326, Bismarck
 - Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9061
& Ladies Auxiliaries, Mandaree & Fort Berthold
 - Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter #150, Bismarck
- National Anthem: Ms. Brittan Grubb
- Memorial Day Prayer: Pastor Jim Ray, Valley Christian Church, Moorhead, Minn.
- Welcoming Remarks:
 - Lt. Governor Drew Wrigley
 - Senator John Hoeven
 - Representative Kevin Cramer
 - Maj. Gen. David A. Sprynczynatyk, N.D. Adjutant General
- Keynote Address: Maj. Gen. (Retired) Alexander P. Macdonald
- Battle Hymn of the Republic: 188th Army Band Brass Quintet
- Rifle Volley: American Legion Post 40/VFW Post 707
- Taps: Warrant Officer 1 James Landman, 188th Army Band
- Cannon Salute: N.D. Army National Guard
- Flags Raised to Full Staff: Military Veterans
- Closing Prayer: Chaplain (Capt.) Chad Gion, N.D. Army National Guard
- Retiring of Colors: Veteran Service Organizations

END OF FORMAL CEREMONY

Unveiling of POW MIA Memorial (Dedication on July 3 at 11 a.m.)
Please join Sinte-Ska as they perform "The Flag Song" at Flag Plaza.

After today's ceremony, help celebrate
Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park's 50th anniversary.
Free admission to the park & interpretive tours all day long.
Enjoy free ice cream, hot dogs, giveaways & live music.